

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1-128. (Cancelled)

129. (Currently Amended) A method of treating urinary incontinence, comprising injecting into a urethra a hydrogel that comprises about 0.5% to 25% by weight of a polymer, based on the total weight of said hydrogel, wherein said polymer is ~~[[the]]~~ a product of a method comprising combining acrylamide and methylene bis-acrylamide in a molar ratio of 150:1 to 1000:1, and wherein said hydrogel includes less than 50 ppm monomeric units, has a complex viscosity of about 2 to 50 Pas, and has an elasticity modulus of about 1 to 200 Pa.

130. (Canceled)

131. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 129, wherein said hydrogel comprises less than 10% by weight of said polymer, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

132. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 131, wherein said hydrogel comprises less than 5% by weight of said polymer, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

133. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 132 wherein said hydrogel comprises less than 3.5% by weight of said polymer, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

134. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 129, wherein said hydrogel has a complex viscosity of about 2 to 20 Pas.

135. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 129, wherein said hydrogel further comprises at least 75% by weight pyrogen-free water or saline solution.

136. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 129, wherein said hydrogel is homogenized.

137. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 129, wherein said polymer is cross-linked polyacrylamide.

138. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 129, wherein said hydrogel has an elasticity modulus of about 5 to 150 Pa.

139. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 138, wherein said hydrogel has an elasticity modulus of about 10 to 100 Pa.

140. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 129, wherein said hydrogel includes less than 10 ppm monomeric units.

141. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 135, wherein said hydrogel:

- (A) comprises at least 1.5% by weight ~~polyacrylamide~~, but less than 10% by weight polyacrylamide, and at least 90% by weight pyrogen-free water or saline solution, based on the total weight of the hydrogel; and
- (B) includes less than 10 ppm monomeric units, has a complex viscosity of about 2 to 20 Pas, and has an elasticity modulus of about 1 to 100 Pa.

142. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 129, wherein said incontinence is selected from the group consisting of stress incontinence, reflex incontinence, and urge incontinence.

143. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 129, wherein said hydrogel is injected ~~[[into]]~~ under the submucosa of the urethra.

144. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 129, wherein said injecting of said hydrogel comprises injections at positions 10, 2, and 6 o'clock of the cross-sectional axis of the urethra.

145. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 129, wherein said ~~injecting further comprises an introducing of cells~~ hydrogel further comprises cells.

146. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 145, wherein said cells comprise stem cells.

147. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 145, wherein said cells allow for cellular engraftment to the surrounding tissue in the urethra.